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Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
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Items 3 and 4 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Discussion on the special theme for the year, "Indigenous peoples: development with culture and identity: articles 3 and 32 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Human rights: implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Information received from Governments

Plurinational State of Bolivia

Summary

The present report contains a statement by the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia on the measures taken or envisaged in response to the recommendations made by the mission of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, conducted in April and May 2009.

* E/C.19/2010/1.

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I. Introduction

1. In the context of the recommendations arising from the seventh session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, held from 21 April to 2 May 2008, the Permanent Forum addressed the situation of the Chaco region in paragraph 156 of its report on its seventh session:

> "The Permanent Forum has learned from indigenous peoples' communications, which have been corroborated by the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous peoples, that in the Chaco region there are Guaraní communities in a practical state of slavery. According to the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery, as well as the articles 17, 26 and 28 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the Forum strongly supports the efforts of the current Government of Bolivia and the commitment of the incoming Government of Paraguay to discontinue this enslaving practice and return indigenous lands to their lawful owners, the Guaraní themselves".[1]

2. In this connection, in May 2009, a mission of experts of the Permanent Forum conducted a site visit to Bolivia's Chaco region in order to collect relevant information. At its eighth session, held from 18 to 29 May 2009, the Permanent Forum decided to publish the reports of the mission to the Chaco region and suggested to the relevant Governments that they report at the ninth session.[2]

3. In late August 2009, the Permanent Forum published the report, together with the recommendations of the mission to the Plurinational State of Bolivia, which were officially endorsed by the Government at the beginning of September 2009. The Government therefore welcomes the opportunity to submit the following report on progress and challenges related to the recommendations made in the mission report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

II. Report

A. Free, prior and informed consent

4. The Bolivian Government, which respects international instruments and ensures enjoyment of the rights of indigenous peoples, which have been given constitutional rank, has begun to implement the recommendations made by the Permanent Forum.

5. The Government of President Evo Morales Ayma has established and guarantees indigenous peoples' right to free, prior and informed consent (in the field of hydrocarbons). In this connection, Bolivia brings to the Forum's attention the progress achieved, as set out in this table:

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[1] E/C.19/2008/13, para. 156.

[2] See E/C.19/2009/14, para. 94.

Consultation on and participation in hydrocarbon-related activities

Fiscal year	*Company*	*Activity, work or project*	*Status*	*Indigenous aboriginal peoples and farming communities*
2007	Chaco	Construction of lines for the Percheles and El Dorado mines	Finished	Zoned municipal district Takovo Mora, Guaraní People's Assembly (APG), Nueva Esperanza APG, San Isidro de Área community, San Isidro 1 and San Isidro 2
	Transredes S.A.	Margarita-Palos Blancos lateral gas pipeline	Finished	Itikaguasu APG
	Total E&P Bolivie	3D seismic survey and magnetolluric and gravimetric survey	Finished	Indigenous aboriginal peoples communities (Alto Parapetí, Iupaguasu y Karaoparienda APG)
	Pluspetrol	Development of Tajibo mine-San Isidro block	Finished	Charagua Norte ASG
2008	Transredes S.A.	Lateral expansion of Vuelta Grande gas pipeline	Finished	Machareti municipal district APG
2009	Total E&P Bolivie (Bolivia branch)	Wildcat drilling, Aquio X-1001 well	Finished	Alto Parapetí and Iupaguasu municipal districts APG
	Total E&P Bolivie (Bolivia branch)	Wildcat drilling Inchausti X-2 well	Finished	Alto Parapetí and Iupaguasu municipal districts APG
	Petrobras	3D seismic survey — San Antonio block	Under way	Itikaguasu community lands of origin

B. Ministry of the Interior

6. With regard to the mission report's Recommendation No. 15, the Ministry of the Interior, in conjunction with the Bolivian police, has established the Chaco Police Command. Its presence has been expanded in the region in order to protect the Guaraní inhabitants.

7. With regard to the mission report's Recommendation No. 16, the Ministry of the Interior, through the Bolivian police, ensures the free movement of persons without discrimination. It has, however, come up against the negligent attitude of certain police officers in the Departments of Santa Cruz, Tarija and Chuquisaca (Sucre), who do not contribute to this effort and, on the contrary, persist in acting in a manner that creates conflicts.

C. Ministry of Cabinet Affairs, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, Ministry of Production Development and Plural Economy, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Rural Development and Lands, Inter-ministerial Transition Plan for the Guaraní People

8. The Inter-ministerial Transition Plan (PIT) is being implemented under Supreme Decree 29292 (PIT 2007-2008 for the Guaraní population). The process launched under the Plan is under way. With regard to Forum report's Recommendations Nos. 36, 37 and 38, the Plan has been submitted to the Assembly of the Guaraní People (APG) and to the municipal district councils of Tarija, Chuquisaca and Alto Parapetí for review. Pursuant to an APG decision, it is being fully implemented through the coordinated activities of Guaraní technical teams contracted and certified by the Guaraní authorities.

9. It should be highlighted that the Plan encompasses food safety and sovereignty for Guaraní children and families, in keeping with component 3 of the Plan.[3] For the benefit of the Permanent Forum, the objectives of the Plan are broadly set out as follows.

10. The overall objective is to create an environment that will enable the captive Guaraní families living in Bolivia's Chaco region to lead decent lives within the framework of the National Development Plan, "A Decent, Sovereign, Productive and Democratic Bolivia in order to Live Well" and of the demands of the Guaraní people.

11. Specific objectives of the Inter-ministerial Plan are to:

(a) Ensure enjoyment of the individual and collective rights of the individuals, families and communities of the captive Guaraní people living in Bolivia's Chaco region;

(b) Foster the Guaraní territorial reconstitution process through the reorganization and redistribution of agrarian property and implementation of the Agrarian Reform Community Renewal Act;

(c) Ensure decent living conditions for freed families during the resettlement process;

(d) Develop and implement productive infrastructure and environmental projects and programmes;

(e) Implement a cross-cutting media strategy throughout the process;

(f) Create an implementation, follow-up and evaluation mechanism for the Plan.

12. The following components have been agreed with Guaraní organizations, in accordance with the specific objectives of the Plan:

[3] See www.planguarani.com for current information on the Guaraní population in general and on the Inter-ministerial Transition Plan.

Component	*Main activities*	*Agency*
Component 1: Ensure and restore enjoyment of the fundamental human rights of the Guarani people of the Bolivian Chaco region	• Organization of alternative — productive education days for the exercise of rights and full citizenship in the communities • Creation of a standing inter-institutional and interdisciplinary governmental monitoring team in the Chaco region to ensure protection of the Guarani people's individual and collective rights • Creation of six regional labour departments (Caraparí, Yacuiba, Entre Ríos, Huacareta, Machareti and Charagua) to regulate labour relations in all sectors of the region • Correction of errors in the birth certificates of Guarani people and establishment of free, certified birth registration modules using the mobile brigades of the National Electoral Court; establishment of civil registry offices in Guarani communities • Organization-strengthening, from the Guarani perspective, of the APG district councils in preparation for the freeing of the captive communities • Provision of support to freed Guarani families, especially women, through programmes in the areas of production and fundamental rights • Preparation of the Comprehensive Plan for the Development of the Guarani Nation, based on the strategic plans for the Guarani people, for the second phase	Ministry of Justice — Ministry of Labour
Component 2: Advance the process of reconstitution of the territory of the Guarani nation through reorganization and redistribution of agrarian property and implementation of the Land Redistribution Act	• Reorganization, redistribution, granting of title and granting of agrarian property in the Guarani people's area of influence (Chuquisaca and Santa Cruz) through compensation and conversion to community lands of origin • Reorganization of agrarian property (conversion) with a view to the granting and titling of community lands of origin in the Gran Chaco province of the Department of Tarija • Certifications of ethnic identity and spatial needs reports	Ministry of Rural Development and Lands — Office of the Deputy Minister for Lands (National Agrarian Reform Institute)

Component	*Main activities*	*Agency*
Component 3: Implement a contingency programme to give freed families decent living conditions during the process and settlement in communities	• Provision of emergency care to families from the *haciendas* during the liberation process (food, provisions, tents, tools, medicine, etc.) • Provision of support to families freed in the process of settlement in the distributed public land (housing, drinking water, basic sanitation, etc.) • Development of education and health programmes for freed families, in coordination with the municipalities and district education and health offices	Ministry of Development Planning — Ministry of Education
Component 4: Implement production, infrastructure and environment programmes and projects in coordination with municipalities	• Develop family food security programmes and pilot project (agricultural, livestock and forest production and complementary activities such as, inter alia, crafts and tourism) • Develop environmental and biodiversity management programmes and projects • Establishment of community microenterprises to maintain local roads	Ministry of the Environment and Water
Component 5: Cross-cutting communication strategy for the entire process	• Design and implementation of an internal and external communication strategy	Office of the Deputy Minister for Governmental Coordination and Management of Territorial Affairs
Component 6: Mechanisms for implementation of, follow-up, and assessment of the Plan to:	• The Plan management office plans, coordinates and ensure follow-up on implementation of the Plan • It creates strategic alliances and coordinates with international aid agencies, non-governmental organizations, police departments and municipalities of the Plurinational State	Ministry of Labour

13. Strategy for implementation of the Guaraní Plan:

(a) Adoption of the Plan by the National Assembly of the Guaraní People's Assembly and by the Board of the Inter-ministerial Transition Plan;

(b) Adoption of the Plan by the Government as the Guaraní nation Comprehensive Development Plan;

(c) Institutionalization of the Plan through establishment of a Plan Implementation Unit in the Guaraní district councils of the Departments of Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca and Tarija;

(d) Inclusion of the objectives, strategies, programmes and projects by all governmental and non-governmental institutions and organizations in their short-, medium- and long-term plans;

(e) Support for implementation of the Plan by all public and private institutions, organizations and projects;

(f) Follow-up and monitoring of the Plan, under the responsibility of the National Board of the Plan Implementation Unit;

(g) Establishment and functioning of the Advisory Council.

14. There is also a Guaraní Okita Reta Plan, which contains the following main elements:

(a) Land: The territory targeted in the recovery of land for the "Reconstitution of the Territory of the Guaraní Nation" initiative;

(b) Development of the economy, production and natural resources: Equitable economic and social development of Guaraní communities, through natural resources management, use and exploitation in the territory of the Guaraní nation;

(c) Human development and research, education and health: Housing, basic sanitation and infrastructure to support basic services and research;

(d) Ñandereko or Guaraní cultural identity and human rights: Reaffirm and reappraise identity, through which the Guaraní essence of *ñande reko* (way of being) of the Guaraní nation will strengthen the organizational structure;

(e) Indigenous autonomy, organization and political participation: Achieve autonomy on the basis of a consolidated and defined (demarcated) territory, affirmation of the rights of the indigenous peoples, reorganization of the Guaraní nation and full political participation.

D. Labour inspectors

15. The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security has appointed labour inspectors, based in Caraparí, Yacuiba and Entre Ríos (Tarija); Huacareta and Machariti (Chuquisaca); and Charagua (Santa Cruz), who have been provided with equipment and offices so that they can carry out their primary task of ensuring the enjoyment and restoring the labour rights of the Guaraní by maintaining a Government presence in remote locations where the labour rights of indigenous peoples, especially the Guaraní, are persistently violated. Respect for and restoration of these rights are being promoted and training in labour rights and the rights of indigenous peoples is planned for all officials of the Chaco region who are involved in the prosecution of cases related to servitude, forced labour or similar practices that target members of indigenous peoples.

E. Capacity-building

16. The Anti-racism and -Discrimination Public Policy Management Unit, which operates under the Anti-Racism and -Discrimination Office and the Office of the Deputy Minister for Decolonization, has launched several initiatives, including:

(a) Planning of the Assessment of Racism and Discrimination in the Plurinational State of Bolivia. Its main objectives are to provide the native indigenous nations and peoples with information on racism and discrimination and to draft public poiicies for combating racism and discrimination, based mainly on contributions from the primary agents of change, men and women. Visits to communities are conducted, data on perpetrators and victims is collected, theories are formulated and inputs are collected in order to design better public policies and to combat this problem;

(b) Under the new Political Constitution of the State, technical tools are being provided in order to ensure enjoyment of the rights of peoples and to better train and teach the public officials of various State ministries concerning the rights of indigenous peoples;

(c) Regarding Recommendation No. 27 of the Forum's mission report, the Ministry of Labour maintains a presence in Camiri and in the Bolivian Chaco region of Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca and Tarija (Monteagudo, Camiri, Yacuiba and Villamontes) through departmental and regional head offices. The Ministry plans to build capacities by providing computer equipment and personnel for its offices as proposed by the United Nations;

(d) In August 2007, the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security established a Human Rights Unit. It works in three areas: elimination of child labour, elimination of forced labour, and indigenous peoples and gender;

There are Unit officials in each of those areas who report to the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security and coordinate with the Office of the Deputy Minister for Labour and Social Security, the Department of Labour and Occupational Health and Safety, the head offices of labour of the Departments of Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca and Tarija and the regional head offices of labour of Camiri, Monteagudo and Yacuiba. These officials include labour inspectors, some hired under the budget of the Inter-ministerial Transition Plan, in Huacareta, Machareti (Chuquisaca), Yacuiba, Entre Ríos and Caraparí Taraji) and Charagua (Santa Cruz). There are also a manager, an administrator, secretaries, janitors and cleaners, three planners and three communicators from the Inter-ministerial Transition Plan;

(e) The Office of the Deputy Minister of Justice for Indigenous Aboriginal and Farming Communities, which operates under the Ministry of Justice; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Office of the Deputy Minister for Lands; and the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs are implementing and promoting awareness-raising about, training in and respect for the rights of indigenous peoples;

(f) The three areas of the Human Rights Unit, which operates under the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, works in a cross-cutting manner on issues related to indigenous peoples with the offices and head offices and with departmental and regional head offices and labour inspectors, giving priority to the Bolivian Chaco region as the most vulnerable area where many members of indigenous and farming communities are subjected to forced labour.

F. Opportunities for training in indigenous peoples' rights in State institutions

17. Regarding Recommendation No. 23 of the mission report, training in labour rights and the rights of indigenous peoples is planned for all officials of the Chaco region who are involved in the prosecution of cases related to servitude, forced labour or similar practices affecting members of indigenous peoples.

G. Legislation

18. The new Constitution of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, which prohibits all forms of slavery in Bolivian territory, was promulgated on 7 February 2009.

19. In order to eliminate slavery in Bolivia, the Government promulgated article 157 of Supreme Decree No. 29215 repealing Supreme Decree No. 25763; it establishes that the existence of a system of servitude, forced labour, debt servitude and/or enslavement of captive families or persons in rural areas is detrimental to society and against the collective interest and is therefore an obstacle to performance of the social and economic function.

20. Article 2 of Supreme Decree No. 29802 states that a system of servitude, forced labour, debt servitude and/or enslavement of captive families or persons or similar practices exists where farming activities are conducted using communities, families or persons whose labour or service is provided to the owner or holder of the farmed land in violation of fundamental rights, through coercion and without the full consent of the workers, or when the obligation to pay wages is not met, either because payment is made in kind or because it is lower than the established national minimum wage.

21. Supreme Decree No. 29292 established the Inter-ministerial Council for the Eradication of Servitude, Forced Labour and Similar Practices, which comprises the Ministry of Cabinet Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Development Planning, the Ministry of Production and Microenterprises, the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands and the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security.

22. Supreme Decree No. 29354 justified the expropriation for public use and the reorganization and redistribution of land to be granted to the Guarani people in the Department of Chuquisaca.

23. Act No. 2494 gave rise to the National Public Safety Plan, "A Good Life through a Safe Bolivia". The Plan provides for prevention programmes and projects which address public safety issues that affect the entire population and especially the most vulnerable groups, including the indigenous Guarani people.

H. Communication strategy

24. A communication strategy based on mutual relations among the departments of Chuquisaca, Santa Cruz and Tarija has been drafted and is being implemented. The officials in charge are those who are implementing the strategy and publicizing the Interministerial Transition Plan in the mass media, especially at the regional level.

with the primary goal of raising awareness of labour rights and the rights of indigenous peoples under the new Political Constitution of the State.

I. Health

25. The Ministry of Health has implemented the Intercultural Community Family Health Programme (SAFCI), under which doctors with intercultural training travel to the communities and territory of the indigenous Guaraní people to work. However, there are still employers living in haciendas in the Bolivian Chaco region who deny entry to those doctors.

J. The judiciary

26. The Government has taken steps to expedite the prosecution of cases related to the Guaraní people. Unfortunately, the judiciary remains under the control of members of far-right political parties, such as Acción Democrática Nacionalista, Movimiento Nacionalista Revolucionario, Nueva Fuerza Republicana and Movimiento de Izquierda Revolucionaria, who own enormous landholdings and enslave our Guaraní brothers. Most of these agricultural properties were acquired fraudulently.

27. From February to April 2008, the best-known landholders, such as the Larsen, Chávez and Malpartida families, led a landowners' riot in the Cordillera province in order to prevent the granting of the Alto Parapetí community lands of origin.

28. Landowner Mario Malpartida is accused of attempted murder (art. 8, in connection with art. 252, of the Penal Code); unlawful association (art. 132); resisting the authorities (art. 159); preventing or hindering officials in their duties (art. 161); threats (art. 293); armed robbery (art. 332); attacks on State officials (art. 128); aggravated injury (art. 358); burglary (art. 298) and sedition (art. 123).

29. Those who arrived in Santa Cruz later (descendants of Croatians, Turks and others), such as Rubén Costas and the *hacienda* owners of the Santa Cruz Chaco region prevented the distribution of lots of land to indigenous people.

30. Land owners Herminia Fernández de Corcuy and Aniceto Corcuy Caba (first owners) have an area of 1,938.4717 hectares and keep six people in a situation of servitude and forced labour.

31. Land owners Elide Montes de Chávez and Babil Chávez Corcuy have an area of 3,790.9321 hectares and keep 42 Guaraní people in a situation of servitude and forced labour.

32. Land owners Nelson Chávez Aguilera, Luz Virginia Chávez de Gutiérrez, Julia Aguilera de Chávez, Roberto Chávez Aguilera, Juana Chávez Aguilera, Humberto Mario Chávez Aguilera, Rene Ernesto Chávez Aguilera, Alicia Chávez Aguilera and Raquel Chávez Aguilera de León have an area of 4,894.0967 hectares and keep 33 Guaraní people in a state of servitude and forced labour. Roberto Chávez says that his parents, Julia and Nolberto, acquired the property in 1940 from Seledonio Aguilera. The first owner was Ernesto Chávez Corcuy, who transferred the property, including the Guaraní families. Worker Jesús Jarillo Toledo has complained that the

owner threatened to expel him from the *hacienda* without payment of social benefits.

33. In Isiporenda ("place where *bejuco* (a climbing plant used as string) grows"), owners Elvy Abett de Malpartida and Luis Eduardo Soriano Noriega have an area of 10,958.6948 hectares and keep 26 Guaraní people in a situation of servitude and forced labour. The Malpartida family purchased the land from Oscar Peña Sandoval; their deed of transfer lists Guaraní people as though they were beasts of burden. The Malpartida family, one of the most violent and abusive employers in the area, is charged with whipping Guaraní employees on 13 April and with threatening members of the Itakuatia community with firearms. They often whip their farmhands and kill the goats that they raise for family consumption. They pay wages of 300 bolivianos (42 dollars) for 13-hour days, normally in kind with medicines, school materials, clothing and food. Malpartida whipped lawyer Ramiro Valle and other indigenous people for 15 minutes on 13 April 2008 in Cuevo.

34. In Huaraca ("Guan"), Itacay ("boundary marker"), owners Duston Larsen Metenbrink and others have an area of 15,262.9492 hectares and keep 29 Guaraní people in a situation of servitude. According to *Escape* magazine and the newspaper, *La Razón* (February 2007), Ronald Larsen, father of Duston and a descendant of Danish immigrants who came to Bolivia in the 1960s with the Peace Corps, bought the Caraparicito I property in 1969 from the family of Donoso Trigo, a descendant of Octavio Padilla, who owned 32 haciendas. He was a lawyer and brother-in-law of Juana Azurduy de Padilla. The Larsen family acquired the property together with the Guaraní people who had worked for the previous owner. Larsen, a United States citizen, owns 57,145 hectares in the Department of Santa Cruz.

K. Agrarian reform

35. Act No. 3545 on community reorganization of the agrarian reform and its regulations of 28 November 2006 have led to great progress in the distribution of land to indigenous, aboriginal and farming nations, peoples and communities in the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

36. On 21 November 2008, pursuant to that Act, National Agrarian Reform Institute (INRA) technical brigades resumed the redistribution of land in indigenous communities, small and medium-sized properties and agricultural enterprises in the Cordillera province of the Department of Santa Cruz.

37. The goals of the redistribution are:

(a) To grant title to community lands of origin in Alto Parapetí as requested by Guaraní communities;

(b) To free indigenous people from servitude;

(c) To deliver, free of charge, titles to small plots of farming and grazing land of less than 500 hectares, which play a social role. INRA has completed the distribution of sectors 3 and 4 — a total of 88,000 hectares — which has been divided into 77 plots.

38. Under the redistribution policy, property rights to 60 small and medium-sized farming and grazing plots will be granted, along with titles of ownership. Titles will also be given to seven indigenous communities that have been surveyed and

integrated into the Alto Parapetí community lands of origin. Five large landholdings with no economic and social function, where more than 50 Guaraní families are living in conditions of servitude, will revert to the State.

39. Here are some of the Guaraní names of indigenous communities:

- Iviyeka: "Separated land, land divided into two parts"
- Tasete: "Lots of worker ants (many ants)"
- Yapumbia: "Where the life of man ends"
- Yaiti: "Bushy hillside"
- Itakuatía: "Marked stone or writing on a stone" (a former border marker)
- Huaraca: "Guan"
- Carapari: A cactus that grows in the Chaco region, the Guaraní word for dragonfruit
- Mandiyuti (also "mandyjuti"): "White cotton"
- Karaguatarenda: "Place where karaguata (a wild plant similar to pineapple leaf) grows"
- El arenal: Sand quarry ("Ivikuinti" means sand)
- Timboirenda: "Place where timboy (a plant that can be used for wood) grows"
- Capirenda: "Place where straw grows abundantly"
- Ivicuati (also written yvykuaty): "Well". "Ti", normally written with a diaeresis on the "i", means "white", so "yvycuaty" means "white well"
- Cuevo (Ñumbite or mbui'te): Canyon or plain between two hills

Source: Identity registry of indigenous or aboriginal peoples, Office of the Deputy Minister for Lands.

Guaraní communities within the Alto Parapetí community lands of origin (TCO)

40. The Alto Parapetí TCO are located in the Department of Santa Cruz, Cordillera province, and cover an area of 157,094 hectares.

Boundaries of the community lands of origin

41. To the north, the communities of Iguasurenda, Itaimi, Tenta Piau-Lagunillas, Curupaiti and Kuruyuqui; to the south, the Río Cuevo communities, the El Piritial, Parapetí and Yaguagua properties and the Santa Rosa de Cuevo community; to the east, the Kaami TCO; and to the west, the Santa Rosa de Cuevo community, public land, Quebrada Itacua, Río Caraparí and the Santa Bárbara property.

L. Public policies

42. The Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia has issued supreme decrees granting various economic benefits to the general population of the country, including the members of the Guaraní nation. One example is the Juancito Pinto

bonus, a benefit granted to children of school age in an amount proportionate to their level of education.

43. The Dignity Bonus is paid monthly to men and women over 60 years of age; the Juana Azurduy Bonus is paid to pregnant women and children up to the age of 2.

M. Higher education

44. The Indigenous University of Bolivia was established through Supreme Decree No. 29664 of 2 August 2008, using resources from the proportion of the direct tax on hydrocarbons that is allocated to the tax's Indigenous Peoples' Fund. The Decree established indigenous universities in various ecoregions in Bolivia. One of these is the Apiahuayqui Tumpa University, based in Kuruyuqui in the territory of the Guaraní nation, which was opened on 11 April 2009 with the active and committed involvement of community organizations and the indigenous and aboriginal peoples of Bolivia in order to conduct scientific research and to solve problems related to the production base and the social environment.

N. Political participation

45. The election of the Plurinational Assembly on 6 December 2009 was a very important event in the history of the Plurinational State of Bolivia. The Assembly is made up of representatives of various indigenous, aboriginal, farming and intercultural nations, peoples and communities.

46. Under the principle of direct representation of indigenous peoples, Wilson Changaraí of the Guaraní People's Assembly (APG) was elected to represent the special indigenous constituency in the Plurinational Assembly.